

## ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area



ABAG

September 20, 1999

Rick Breitenbach  
CalFed Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

Enclosed please find a copy of the resolution approved by the Association of Bay Area Governments Executive Board at the September 16, 1999 meeting.

We look forward to collaboratively working with you to address and resolve problems associated with the Bay-Delta system.

Sincerely,

Peggy M. Edgerton  
Clerk of the Board

cc: Supervisor Steve Kinsey, Marin County

enclosure



**ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS  
EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Resolution No.15.99**

**RESOLUTION FOR CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM**

**A COLLABORATION AMONG STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES AND  
OTHER PUBLIC AND SPECIAL INTERESTS AIMED AT ADDRESSING AND  
RESOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER MANAGEMENT  
PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BAY-DELTA SYSTEM.**

**WHEREAS**, the health of the San Francisco Bay/Delta estuary and the diverse ecosystems it supports are fundamental to the environmental well being of the entire Bay Area; and

**WHEREAS**, much of the Bay Area's economic vitality is supported by the Bay/Delta estuary, including industries such as tourism, recreational and commercial fishing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bay/Delta estuary's health is in rapid decline, manifested by various indicators including dramatic reductions in fish populations, and due to a variety of devastating impacts, including the diversion of over 50 percent of its flows from the watershed's rivers, the loss of over 85 percent of historic wetlands, and the discharge of 40,000 tons of pollutants into the Bay; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1994 the Federal Government and the State of California, in conjunction with agricultural, urban and environmental stakeholders, have undertaken an effort to address the remarkably complex water resource issues of the Bay/Delta ecosystem through a process known as CalFed; and

**WHEREAS**, in the CalFed process the current public comment period for the Draft Programmatic EIR/EIS provides a critical opportunity for input on the issues affecting the San Francisco Bay/Delta estuary.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments does hereby identify that the following essential elements must be incorporated into future policies and programs undertaken by the CalFed process:

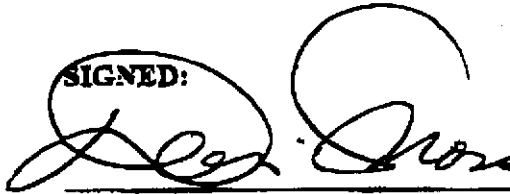
- A guarantee that there will be adequate freshwater flows into the Bay – The San Francisco Bay/Delta estuary's historic freshwater flows have been reduced by half. Currently there exists a need for science-based standards that establish minimum flows of freshwater into the Bay. Adequate flows will benefit the entire estuary in

diverse ways, including improving water quality, supporting biological diversity, and the health of all of the Bay/Delta estuary's ecosystems.

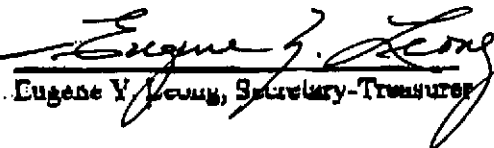
- Water conservation by all users - Equitable water conservation practices must be required and enforced for all users throughout California. Managing demand through conservation practices and greater water use efficiency can eliminate or substantially reduce the need to construct new storage facilities. Until conservation practices and demand management have been implemented and monitored, the construction of new storage facilities should not be initiated.
- A fair share of funding for Bay Area environmental restoration efforts - The EPA's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), BCDC's San Francisco Bay Plan, and the RWQCB's Bay Basin Plan all establish numerous beneficial measures that must be taken to protect and restore habitat and improve fish and wildlife in the Bay/Delta estuary. Of the most recent funding package only 5% came to projects in the region. Funding to implement these recommended programs must be brought up to levels that are appropriately proportional to budgets for environmental restoration in other parts of the State.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th day of September 1999.**

SIGNED:



Mary King, President



Eugene V. Young, Secretary-Treasurer